

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BEIRUT 00915 181123Z  
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10  
L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00 SSO-00  
USIE-00 INRE-00 SSM-03 IO-13 ACDA-12 /076 W  
-----092616 181128Z /14

O 181040Z FEB 78  
FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 6852  
INFO AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY CAIRO  
AMEMBASSY AMMAN  
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L BEIRUT 0915

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: P I N T L E  
SUBJ: ROCKY ROAD TO PEACE: EPISODE FIVE

REF: BEIRUT 0905

1. FONMIN BOUTROS CALLED ME 1830 ON FEBRUARY 17 AND TOLD ME SITUATION STILL CRITICAL BECAUSE KATA'IB (PHALANGE) REFUSED COOPERATE IN TURNING OVER SUSPECTS IN FURN ASH-SHUBBAK INCIDENT TO AUTHORITIES. HE ASKED ME TO CALL CHAMOUN AND PIERRE GEMAYEL TO URGE THEM TO COOPERATE WITH DETERRENT FORCES ON THIS QUESTION.

2. I CALLED CHAMOUN FIRST AND HE SAID THAT SAMI KHATIB HAD BEEN ON LINE TO HIM AND HE HAD CALLED GEMAYEL WITH SAME REQUEST. GEMAYEL HAD RESPONDED THAT KATA'IB WERE PREPARED TO RESPECT THE LAW AND COOPERATE WITH AUTHORITIES BUT THEY WERE UNABLE TO GO IN AND THEMSELVES ARREST THE PEOPLE SUSPECTED OF BEING RESPONSIBLE.

3. SUBSEQUENTLY, TALKED TO SHAYKH PIERRE AND  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 BEIRUT 00915 181123Z

HE SAID KATA'IB ITSELF WANTED TO SEE THUGS RESPONSIBLE FOR INCIDENT BROUGHT TO JUSTICE. KATA'IB WAS NOT, HOWEVER, A POLICE FORCE OR A STATE AND IT DID NOT HAVE THE LEGAL IMMUNITY CONFERRED BY A UNIFORM. IT COULD NOT PERFORM THE FUNCTIONS OF THE POLICE. IT WAS PREPARED TO COOPERATE WITH THE POLICE ONCE AN ARREST ORDER WAS ISSUED. IF THE GENDARMERY WOULD COME TO THE KATA'IB WITH

SUCH AN ORDER NAMING THE PEOPLE IT WANTED TO APPREHEND, THE KATA'IB WOULD COOPERATE WITH IT IN THE TASK. HE REALIZED THAT THE GENDARMERY ITSELF WAS UNABLE TO GO INTO CHRISTIAN AREAS AND ARREST THE SORT OF PEOPLE INVOLVED, AND THAT, IN PARTICULAR, IT COULD NOT DO SO AGAINST THE OPPOSITION OF THE KATA'IB. THE KATA'IB WOULD TRY TO FACILITATE ITS TASK HOWEVER. WE AGREED THAT I WOULD CALL ON HIM AT HIS HEADQUARTERS AT NOON TODAY (FEB 18) TO DISCUSS FURTHER.

4. I THEN CALLED BOUTROS TO REPORT MY CONVERSATION WITH GEMAYEL. HE IMPLIED THAT GEMAYEL'S ARGUMENT WAS SPECIOUS, BUT HE WOULD SEE WHAT COULD BE DONE NEVERTHELESS. HE SAID HE HAD HEARD RUMORS THAT THE MEN IN QUESTION HAD BEEN EXFILTRATED FROM LEBANON. I SAID I HEARD SAME ALLEGATION BUT IT CAME FROM SOURCE WHO WAS HIGHLY UNRELIABLE.

5. COMMENT: SO MANY PEOPLE ARE LYING TO SO MANY OTHERS AND THERE ARE SO MANY UNHELPFUL RUMORS FLOATING AROUND THAT IT IS VERY HARD TO KNOW WHAT TO BELIEVE. PIERRE GEMAYEL, HOWEVER, IS ONE OF THE FEW POLITICIANS IN THIS COUNTRY WHO HAS A REPUTATION FOR HONESTY. IN FACT, HE IS THE ONLY ONE I CAN THINK OF OFFHAND. HE SPEAKS WITH EVERY EVIDENCE OF MEANING WHAT HE SAYS. WHETHER THE SECURITY FORCES CAN ARREST THE MEN IN  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 BEIRUT 00915 181123Z

QUESTION, EVEN WITH THE SUPPORT OF THE KATA'IB, IS ANOTHER QUESTION.  
PARKER

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PEACE, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, POLITICAL SITUATION  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 18 feb 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978BEIRUT00915  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D780075-0867  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** BEIRUT  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1978/newtext/t19780238/aaaabfty.tel  
**Line Count:** 97  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** 8bf007d4-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION NEA  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 78 BEIRUT 905  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 30 jun 2005  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 3550258  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** ROCKY ROAD TO PEACE: EPISODE FIVE  
**TAGS:** PINT, LE  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvkey:** odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/8bf007d4-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014